(b) The type of works taken up under these schemes like dug-wells, minor irrigation, soil & water conservation agro-horticulture , watershed projects, afforestation, link roads etc., have definitely direct and indirect positive impact on agricultural growth in the rural areas. However, no specific study has been conducted to quantify the exact impact of assets created under these schemes on agricultural growth.

(c) Under JRY 10% of the funds provided during a year can be spent on the maintenance of assets. The responsibility of assets created under EAS is of the State Government concerned. The individual assets created under IAY and MWS are to be maintained by the beneficiaries themselves.

(d) No such targets of asset creation under various rural works programmes have been fixed for the next five years.

Rural development during the Eighth Plan

109. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total Central outley during the Eighth Five Year Plan for rural development;

(b) what is its ratio to GDP; and

(c) the number of persons who crossed the poverty line as a result of rural development, employment and poverty alleviation proprammes during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) to (c) As per the Eighth Five Year Plan document, the approved Central Sector outlay for the Rural Development was Rs. 30,000 crores at 1991-92 prices. The GDP at factor cost for the total 8th Plan was estimated at Rs. 30,69,138 crores at 1991-92 prices.

The approved Central Sector outlay of Rs. 30,000 crores for Rural Development Sector is 0.98% of GDP at factor cost of Rs 30,69,138 (at 1991-92 prices). However the actual central outlay for Rural development for the Eighth Plan would be greater than the approved outlay of Rs. 30,000 crores and the figures for the GDP at factor cost may also change.

As per the Lakdawala Expert Committee Report on Poverty Estimate, in 1987-88, 39.09% people were below poverty line in rural areas while in 1993-94, the percentage of people below poverty line declined to 37.27%.

100% coverage for safe drinking water under Basic Minimum Services Programme

110. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 100% coverage of 1 provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas has been declared under the Government Basic Minimum Services Programme;

(b) by when this programme will be fully implemented; and

(c) whether there are any yearly plans for this?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The programme is likely to be implemented by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) Yearly plans are drawn up by the States/UTs based on the availability of annual Plan outlays.

Drinking water in Keonjhar district of Orissa

111. SHRI RAHAS BIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe scarcity of drinking water in the entire mines areas in Keonjhar district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons led to the so much scarcity of drinking water in those mines areas; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the potable drinking water supply in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) No report has been received by the Ministry in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Parameters for declaration of rural areas

112. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the broad parameters for declaring, identifying on area as a rural area and the basis of granting Central assistance for development of a rural area in the country including modus operandi/ procedure of disbursement of assistance;

(b) the details of criteria involved for participation of Non-Government Organisations in development of rural areas and the manner in which their performance is appraised; and

(c) the percentage of total area of the State of Karnataka under rural area and the details of Central assistance extended to the State in the last three years including the number of NGOs at present operating in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Urban areas are declared by the State Government Local bodies depending upon thepopulation size, basic facilities provided etc. The rest of the area remains rural area.

(b) Mainly Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) provides financial assistance to voluntary Organisations to take up developmental projects in rural areas based on certain criteria like registeration under Socieities Registration Act, 1860 or a state amendment thereof, the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or the Religious Charitable Institutions Registration Act, 1920, maintenance of bank account for last 3 years etc.

The projects submitted by Voluntary Organisations are appraised before sanction. On sanction of the project, funds are released in stages based on the progress report and mid terms evaluation of the project. Mid term evaluations are carried out once or more depending upon the size and nature of the project. On completion of the project, documents such as completion report, audited statement of accounts, utilisation certificate, etc. are obtained and later post evaluation is conducted to study the impact of the programme on a project to basis.

(c) During the last 3 years, CAPART has assisted around 121 Karnataka State based Voluntary organisations to take up 137 projects involving a total assistance of Rs. 5.6 crores.

The amount of central assistance provided to the State of Karnataka—under major schemes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (RDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) during last three years is as under:—